**Lord Durham**

Lord Durham’s report was one of the most famous and controversial (some even say racist) documents in Canadian history

**Who was he??**

* Lord Durham arrived in Quebec city as governor general of British North America and he stayed only five months

**Why was he sent to British North America??**

* He was sent to investigate the causes of the rebellions of 1837

**What were his recommendations??**

* Lord Durham had three different recommendations
  + He wanted the two colonies of Upper Canada and Lower Canada to become a joint colony called the United Province of Canada.
    - English would be placed in the majority
    - Also to intend a way of uniting the English Speaking people and giving them a majority of the Legislative Assembly
  + He felt that the new united colony should have responsible government so that imperial laws would be in writing and so that the governor would not take sides
  + He wanted to assimilate the French Canadians

**Act of Union**

* The Act of Union was accomplished without the support and participation of the French, in fact; the Act of Union declared that all government documents were to be in English
* Durham’s proposal on union was accepted by the British government and successor; Lord Sydenham
* Sydenham was then instructed by the British government to bring about unity, and to use the Act of Union of 1840 to make everything come into play
* The province of Canada was created, with Montreal as its capital